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Rural District Council  
of  
NORTON

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Annual Report  
of the  
Medical Officer of Health  
(W. WILSON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.)

INCLUDING THE REPORT  
of the  
Sanitary Inspector  
(W. V. HARGREAVE, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.)  
for the year  
1949



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NORTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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**ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1949**

**Public Health Officers of the Authority.**

Medical Officer of Health:

W. WILSON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector (and Surveyor):

W. V. HARGREAVE, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Royal Sanitary Institute Certificates:

1. Sanitary Inspector.
2. Meat and other foods.
3. Sanitary Science as applied to buildings and public works.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

E. B. OGLESBY, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

1. Certificate S.I.J.B.

(Resigned, 17th May, 1949.)

Clerk: Miss Betty Westwood.

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Council Buildings,  
Scarborough Road,  
Norton, Malton.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council of Norton.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting for your consideration my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of your Rural District for the year 1949.

The Additional Sanitary Inspector—Mr. E. B. Oglesby—resigned in order to take up another appointment. The Finance and General Purposes Committee recommended to the Council that this officer should not be replaced. As a result, the Rural Housing Survey has been brought to a standstill. It will not be possible to continue with the Survey until such time as a new appointment is made.

There has been a large increase in the number of cases of measles notified during the year. The epidemic commenced in the parishes of Sherburn and Ganton during the last three months of 1948. The outbreak became widespread, the whole district being involved. Ninety per cent of the cases were notified as occurring during the first quarter of 1949.

In conclusion, I should like to say that I am indebted to all members of the staff for their co-operation and assistance.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

Wm. WILSON,  
Medical Officer of Health.



## Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres) ... ..	94,132
Number of inhabited houses ... ..	2,181
Registrar-General's estimate of population ... ..	7,074
Rateable value ... ..	£21,893
Sum represented by a penny rate ... ..	£83

## Vital Statistics.

Live Births:	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate ...	78	53	131
Illegitimate ...	4	9	13
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	82	62	144
Birth rate ... ..	20.3 per 1,000.		
Illegitimate rate ... ..	9.0% of total births.		
Still Births ... ..	3		
Rate per 1,000 of the population	0.42		
Death of infants under one year	5		
Rate per 1,000 live births ...	34.7		
	M.	F.	Total
Deaths ... ..	58	51	109
Death rate per 1,000	...	...	15.4

## Comparative Table of Birth and Death Rates during the year, 1949.

	LIVE BIRTH	STILL BIRTH	DEATHS	DEATHS OF CHILDREN ONE YEAR OF AGE, PER 1,000 REGISTERED LIVE BIRTHS
(Rates per 1,000 civilian population)				
England and Wales	16.7	0.39	11.7	32
126 C.B.'s and Great Towns including London ... ..	18.7	0.47	12.5	37
148 Smaller Towns	18.0	0.40	11.6	30
London Admin. County ... ..	18.5	0.37	12.2	29

## Table of Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates. Norton R.D.C.

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality
1948	20.6	11.5	13.6
1949	20.3	15.4	34.7

Table showing causes of death in Norton R.D.C., 1949.

	M.	F.	Total
All Causes ... ..	58	51	109
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers ...	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever ... ..	—	—	—
3. Scarlet fever ... ..	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria I ... ..	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	3	1	4
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	1	—	1
8. Syphilitic diseases ... ..	—	—	—
9. Influenza ... ..	1	3	4
10. Measles ... ..	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	—	—
12. Acute Infective Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—
13. Cancer of buccal cavity oesophagus (M) uterus (F) ... ..	—	—	—
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	1	1
15. Cancer of breast ... ..	—	2	2
16. Cancer of all other sites ... ..	9	—	9
17. Diabetes ... ..	—	—	—
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions ... ..	10	6	16
19. Heart Diseases ... ..	14	25	39
20. Other diseases of circulatory system ...	3	3	6
21. Bronchitis ... ..	2	—	2
22. Pneumonia ... ..	1	2	3
23. Other respiratory diseases ... ..	—	—	—
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ... ..	—	—	—
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years ... ..	1	—	1
26. Appendicitis ... ..	—	—	—
27. Other digestive diseases ... ..	1	1	2
28. Nephritis ... ..	—	5	5
29. Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis ...	—	—	—
30. Other maternal causes ... ..	—	—	—
31. Premature birth ... ..	—	1	1
32. Congenital malformation, birth injury, infantile distortions ... ..	2	—	2
33. Suicide ... ..	2	—	2
34. Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	—	—	—
35. Other violent causes ... ..	2	—	2
36. All other causes ... ..	6	1	7

Table showing Age and Sex Distribution of Deaths during 1949.

	M.	F.	Total
Under 1 year ...	3	2	5
1—5 ... ..	1	—	1
5—15 ... ..	—	—	—
15—25 ... ..	1	1	2
25—45 ... ..	5	2	7
45—55 ... ..	2	3	5
55—65 ... ..	8	6	14
65—75 ... ..	14	15	29
75 and over ...	24	22	46
Totals ... ..	58	51	109



## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Measles	...	...	...	141 cases
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	11 cases
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	6 cases
Pneumonia	...	...	...	1 case
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1 case
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	1 case

Cases of infections are admitted, when hospital treatment is necessary, to the Isolation Hospitals at York, Scarborough or Bridlington.

### **Tuberculosis.**

Six new cases of Tuberculosis, four male and two female, were notified or came to notice during the year.

There were five deaths from Tuberculosis during the year.

At the end of 1949 cases on Tuberculosis Register were as follows:—

Pulmonary Males	...	...	...	15
Non-pulmonary Males	...	...	...	8
Pulmonary Females	...	...	...	7
Non-pulmonary Females	...	...	...	12
				—
				42
				—

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

### **Nursing.**

A domiciliary nursing and midwifery service is now available throughout the district as part of the County Council's Scheme under the National Health Service Act.

District Nurse Midwives are stationed at Norton, Ganton, Scagglethorpe and Wetwang.

### **Laboratory Facilities.**

Bacteriological samples are examined at the Public Health Laboratories situated at Northallerton and Hull.

Routine samples of water are sent to the Laboratory at Hull for examination.

### **Ambulance Service.**

Ambulances based in Scarborough, Filey and Malton are available, and a car for sitting cases is sited at Weaverthorpe.

### **Treatment Centres and Clinics.**

Child Welfare Clinics are held each month at Sherburn and Rillington.

An Ophthalmic Clinic is held monthly in Norton.

Clinics for the treatment of venereal disease are held each week at York and Scarborough.

### **Hospitals.**

General medical and surgical cases are admitted to hospitals at Malton, Driffeld, Scarborough and York.

Maternity cases go to the Westow Croft Nursing Home, Westow.

### **National Assistance Act, 1948.**

It has not been necessary to take any action under Section 47 of this Act during the year.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### Water Supply.

Water to the greater part of the district is supplied from four major regional schemes, as follows:—

Sherburn Regional.	Sherburn, Willerby, Ganton, East and West Heslerton, East and West Knapton.
Wintringham Regional.	Wintringham, Rillington, Scagglethorpe, Scampston, Thorpe Bassett, Nth. Grimston, Settrington.
Wharram Regional.	Wharram, Duggleby, Kirby Grindalythe, East and West Luttons, Helperthorpe, Weaverthorpe, Foxholes.
Acklam Regional.	Acklam, Scrayingham, Leppington, Westow, Howsham, Burythorpe, Langton.

Samples of water are submitted for bacteriological examination at intervals.

### Sewage Disposal.

Work on the sewage disposal works at Westow was commenced early in 1949 and these works are now nearing completion.

### Housing.

Number of houses completed in 1949:—

By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	36
By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	9

Houses in course of erection at end of 1949:—

By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	14
By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	8

Total number of applicants for Council houses at end of 1949	...	...	...	...	...	152
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## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, SEPTEMBER, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the Norton Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The year 1949 will be remembered by reason of the transference to the Ministry of Agriculture of the supervision of farms and premises on which milk is produced. This was an important feature of work in a Rural District, much time and care was devoted to it, but we had to work under difficulties, shortage of staff, long distances to travel and a need for amendment of the law. Whilst I personally regret the loss of this interesting work, I am hoping that the new method will bring about the many improvements that are obviously necessary.

I had hoped to have concentrated on the Rural Housing Survey, but my assistant resigned his appointment and has not been replaced, it has therefore been impossible to continue this valuable work.



The increase in the number of premises being provided with drainage has continued, and during the year thirty-seven new septic tanks were constructed by property owners, water closets and bathrooms being provided on the properties concerned.

The following sanitary conditions are still outstanding, and it is hoped that it will be possible to obtain progress and improvement in the near future.

- (a) The demolition and re-development of Clearance Areas.
- (b) Provision of sewerage and sewage disposal schemes.
- (c) Improvement of sanitary accommodation in schools.

The continued interest which you have extended to my work and the pleasant relationship which exists between us has been very welcome and greatly appreciated, and I am pleased to state that similar conditions have continued with the Members of the Council's Staffs in general. I, therefore, wish to record my sincere thanks to all Members and Officials.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

W. V. HARGREAVE,  
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

#### IV. Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

##### Notices served:—

Informal Notices served	...	...	...	19
Informal Notices complied with	...	...	...	10
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	—
Statutory Notices complied with	...	...	...	—
Letters sent out	...	...	...	1,207
Complaints received	...	...	...	34
Complaints confirmed	...	...	...	31
Interviews	...	...	...	127

##### Synopsis of Inspections made:—

Total number of inspections made	...	...	1,525
Total number of inspections re-made	...	...	134

##### Dwellinghouses:—

Water supply	...	...	...	...	33
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	176
Consolidated regulations	...	...	...	...	116
Infectious disease	...	...	...	...	1
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	5
Clearance areas	...	...	...	...	4

##### Sanitary Conveniences:—

Ashpits and privies	...	...	...	...	9
Water closets	...	...	...	...	7
Pail and chemical closets	...	...	...	...	40

##### Refuse Disposal:—

Tips	...	...	...	...	12
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##### Drains and Sewers:—

Inspections	...	...	...	...	177
Cesspools and septic tanks	...	...	...	...	82
Water tested	...	...	...	...	40
Public urinals	...	...	...	...	3



**Shop Acts:—**

Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	10
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**Factories:—**

With mechanical power	...	...	...	...	13
Without mechanical power	...	...	...	...	11
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	—
Building sites	...	...	...	...	17

**Food:—**

Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	4
Condemnations	...	...	...	...	...	3

**Food Storage, Preparation, etc.:—**

Butcher's shops	...	...	...	...	...	15
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	172
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	111
Fish friers	...	...	...	...	...	11
Ice cream dealers	...	...	...	...	...	12

**Miscellaneous:—**

Works in progress	...	...	...	...	...	27
New buildings	...	...	...	...	...	179
Movable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ponds and watercourses	...	...	...	...	...	72
Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	14
Building licences	...	...	...	...	...	9
Petroleum licences	...	...	...	...	...	14
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	4
Animals and poultry	...	...	...	...	...	21
Public houses	...	...	...	...	...	3

**Summary of Improvements carried out under the Public Health Act, 1936:—**

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Eaves spouts renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drains and cesspools cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	12
Closets provided and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
Houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	—
Water supply	...	...	...	...	...	1

**Summary of Improvements carried out under Housing Acts:—**

Walls and ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wash coppers renewed	...	...	...	...	...	—
Lighting and ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	2
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	7
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	—
Yards paved	...	...	...	...	...	—

**Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, and the Infestation Order, 1943.**

The heaviest and most persistent infestation has once more occurred on premises occupied as hunt kennels and in the adjacent slaughter house. Treatment was arranged, after some trouble, and carried out by the staff of the Divisional Rodent Officer.

Routine treatment of open ditches has been carried out as usual, although in only two cases was there much evidence of infestation. The refuse tips are remarkably free of rats, no doubt this is due to the fact that no organic matter is deposited.

### **Shop Act, 1934.**

Ten premises were inspected. No contraventions were found.

### **Camping Sites.**

No sites are licensed as such, and only six movable dwellings are licensed, these being used as permanent dwellings.

### **Offensive Trades.**

There are three Knacker's Yards within the District, fat melting is carried on at two of these, and the preparation of hound food at the third.

### **Slaughter-houses.**

There are no Slaughter-houses in use within the District. A large number of pigs are slaughtered annually for private use, but no notification of this is made to the Department, and therefore no details can be given.

### **Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.**

Thirty-two persons in the District are licensed under this Act to slaughter animals.

### **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

No cases of bug infestation have been discovered.

### **Schools.**

It would appear that steps are being considered to effect improvements in the sanitary conditions of some of the schools. Plans have been deposited respecting the conversion of pail closets and provision of new drainage at one school.

Complaints of a nuisance caused by the effluent from a septic tank at another school were referred to the County Architect, and suggestions on the statement of the nuisance were made, but no steps have as yet been taken to carry them out.

### **Factories.**

Twenty-four factories have been inspected during the year no defects were observed, seventeen visits were made to building sites re sanitary conveniences.

### **Housing.**

#### **1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year.**

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	733
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	855
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	116
Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	179
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	45



(4)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found to be in all respects fit for human habitation	...	...	...	203
2.	<b>Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.</b>				
	Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers	...	...	...	10
3.	<b>Action under Statutory Powers during the year.</b>				
(a)	Proceedings under Section 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.				
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...		Nil.
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices				
(a)	by Owners	...	...	...	Nil
(b)	by Local Authority in default of Owners	...			Nil
(b)	Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.				
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	Nil
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices				
(a)	by Owners	...	...	...	Nil
(b)	by Local Authority in default of Owners	...			Nil
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.				
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Orders were made	...	...	...	Nil
(2)	Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	Nil
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936				
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	Nil

#### **Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.**

(a)	(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year (ascertained)	...	...	...	8
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...		12
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...		61
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	5
(c)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	9
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...			70



- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding Nil
- (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health or Sanitary Inspector may consider it desirable to report Nil

### Rural Housing Survey.

The number of houses inspected and recorded during the year was 149, bringing the total since the survey commenced to 1,007 out of 1,976 to be dealt with.

The Parishes completed and recorded were Luttons and Ganton, and the following summaries show the classification of houses in each:—

#### Luttons:—

107 houses inspected, included in which are 12 already condemned.

Category 1	...	...	...	...	...	16
„ 2	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ 3	...	...	...	...	...	62
„ 4	...	...	...	...	...	49
„ 5	...	...	...	...	...	25
Overcrowded	...	...	...	...	...	1

49 houses have no internal water supply.

70 houses have types of closets other than water closets.

32 houses have no means of drainage.

#### Ganton:—

80 houses inspected, included in which are 7 already condemned.

Category 1	...	...	...	...	...	10
„ 2	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ 3	...	...	...	...	...	45
„ 4	...	...	...	...	...	47
„ 5	...	...	...	...	...	20
Overcrowded	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

26 houses have no internal water supply.

58 houses have types of closets other than water closets.

15 houses have no means of drainage.

Your additional Sanitary Inspector resigned in May and has not been replaced, therefore the carrying out of the Housing Survey has not been continued. This is to be regretted, as the information obtained was of great value to the Department in many ways, and we now lag considerably behind the other Rural Councils in the County.

A brief summary of classification covering all houses inspected to the year end is as follows:—

Category 1	...	...	...	...	...	87
„ 2	...	...	...	...	...	112
„ 3	...	...	...	...	...	401
„ 4	...	...	...	...	...	273
„ 5	...	...	...	...	...	407

22 cases of overcrowding have been discovered.

Category 1	means	Fit.
„ 2	„	Minor defects.
„ 3	„	Requiring repair and structural alteration.
„ 4	„	Suitable for Reconditioning.
„ 5	„	Unfit.

### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

#### Milk Supply—Registration of Persons and Premises.

Milk Producers registered	...	...	...	228
Number of premises registered as Dairies	...	...	...	232
Number of registered retail purveyors resident within the District	...	...	...	65
Number of registered retail purveyors resident outside the District	...	...	...	3
Average number of cows ascertained	...	...	...	2,315
Number of inspections of dairies and cowsheds	...	...	...	283

#### Designated Milks.

The following licenses have been granted by the County Council for the production of Designated Milks:—

Accredited	...	...	...	...	...	7
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	10

And the following licences have been granted by the District Council:—

Pasteurised (Supplementary)	...	...	...	2
Tuberculin Tested—Bottling	...	...	...	1
Dealers	...	...	...	1
Supplementary	...	...	...	1

During the year it was necessary to call the owner's and occupier's attention to the following defects or contraventions of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926:—

Dirty condition of cattle	...	...	...	2
Dirty condition of milking stools	...	...	...	3
Defective floors and drainage	...	...	...	8
Dirty walls and floors	...	...	...	2
Lack of lighting and ventilation	...	...	...	11

#### Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

These regulations came into operation on 1st October, and under these the Local Authorities have lost their powers respecting the supervision of milk production, the work being now carried on by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Local Authorities are still responsible for the registration of retailers who are not producers, but only about three of these are in our district.

#### Meat and Other Foods.

No slaughtering is carried out, excepting pigs for home use, and no carcasses have been inspected. Fifteen inspections of Shops and Butcher's Vans were carried out.



Four inspections of foodstuffs were carried out resulting in the following recommendations:—

Soup	...	3 tins	Jam	...	1 tin
Bacon	...	5 lbs. 13 ozs.	Fish	...	5½ stones
Milk	...	2 tins	Meat	...	2 tins
Suet	...	6 lbs.			

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Registration of premises under Section 14....

Ice Cream dealers	...	...	...	...	5
Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	Nil
Meat Preparation	...	...	...	...	4
Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	3

### Water Samples.

Thirty samples of water were submitted for Bacteriological examination. Ten were of raw water, three were satisfactory and seven unsatisfactory. Twenty were of treated water, twelve being satisfactory and eight being unsatisfactory.

No shortage of water was experienced but the farms on the Acklam Wold area in Thixendale Parish are in urgent need of a piped supply. Many of these farms are now producing milk, and they are dependent on shallow wells and rainwater cisterns.

The following additions have been made to the Water Supplies:—

- (1) An 80,000 gallon storage tank has been constructed on Settrington Beacon.
- (2) North Grimston village has now received a piped supply.
- (3) Settrington village private supply has been abandoned, the connection to the Council's service made.
- (4) The outlying Grits Farm, Thixendale, has been connected to the village main.

### Public Cleansing.

#### 1. Refuse Collection.

The monthly collection of unburnable refuse has continued and has, I think, been much appreciated.

#### 2. Septic Tanks, Cesspools, etc.

A considerable amount of time is given up to the cleansing of septic tanks and cesspools, and to general maintenance of Housing Estate drainage systems. Privately owned septic tanks and cesspools are cleansed on the application of the owners, on their agreement to pay all expenses.

#### 3. Open Ditches.

These have been cleansed and maintained by casual labour, as and when this was obtainable, and certain difficulties have been experienced in a few parishes. I feel that this work, would be more satisfactorily carried out by the employment of permanent labour.





